



MEMORANDUM

To: Members of the House Energy Policy Committee

From: Dan Papineau, Michigan Chamber of Commerce

Date: May 29, 2018

Subject: Michigan Chamber Supports SB 637

Mr. Chairman, committee members, good morning and thank you for allowing me to speak in support of SB 637. My name is Dan Papineau, and I am the director of tax policy and regulatory affairs for the Michigan Chamber of Commerce. The Michigan Chamber supports SB 637.

In today's economy, having access to the very best in wireless technology is vital to the success of any business. Fast, secure, reliable wireless connections are no longer a luxury – they are now simply a necessity in a world where employers and employees, clients and customers are increasingly relying on mobile devices to conduct business from anywhere at any time.

People demand a high level of connectivity. And for Michigan to remain competitive in attracting and retaining new talent and investment, we need to make sure we are doing everything we can to stay on the cutting edge of wireless technology.

Small cell technology is that cutting edge when it comes to our state's communications infrastructure, and Senate Bill 637 paves the way for that technology here in Michigan. Streamlining the deployment procedures associated with small cells will facilitate investment in this technology in communities throughout the state, greatly enhancing the speed and strength of the networks serving wireless customers.

And that investment will yield returns for years to come. Small cell is the stepping stone that will bridge the gap between our current networks and the approaching next generation of wireless technology. These tiny wireless facilities will serve as the backbone of the coming 5G networks – technology that will completely change the way our businesses connect with each other and with their customers.

I'm here this morning representing job providers from all across our state. I'm also here on behalf of my colleagues and partner advocates for Michigan's economy. On behalf of the Grand Rapids, Detroit, Lansing, Flint Genesee, Northwest Michigan, Saginaw, Blue Water, Macomb County, and Arab American Chambers of Commerce, I speak for all of us in saying this legislation is good for the state's economy, its business and workers, and it deserves your support.

Thank you and I would be happy to answer any questions.

Dan Papineau

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